

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000



June 27, 2006

Reply to Attn of:

DL: 200-12

TO: Distribution

FROM: DL/Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at a News Conference and Reception with the UNCFSP Corporation at Google, Inc.

On June 28, 2006, NASA Ames Research Center (ARC) and the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation (UNCFSP) will hold a news conference and reception at the corporate campus of Google, Inc. At the subject news conference, ARC and the UNCFSP will announce their collaboration to implement a new educational venture, the NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions (NSTI-MI), to be based in NASA Research Park (NRP) on the ARC campus. The NSTI-MI is designed to support the core NASA objective of increasing the number of engineers and scientists who can assist the Agency in implementing the Vision for Space Exploration.

More than one hundred people have been invited to the event, including NASA personnel, Google personnel, UNCFSP personnel, representatives of other companies, elected officials, representatives of state and local governments, local businesses and policy groups, and other federal officials. Of the approximately 12-15 NASA personnel expected to attend, they will be predominantly from ARC. The value of the luncheon associated with this event is approximately \$15.00 per person.

Because the event supports a core NASA objective, attendance by NASA personnel is in the interests of the Government. In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g), and 14 C.F.R. 1207.103, Designation of Responsible Officials, I conclude that attendance at the event by NASA personnel, including the luncheon, is a customary and necessary part of the performance of their duties, and that the interests of NASA in having its employees attend this event outweigh any concern that attendance may, or may not, appear to improperly influence those employees in the performance of their official duties. Accordingly, NASA personnel may participate in and attend the event (including the luncheon), and may accept any modest event mementos that may or may not be offered.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Mauldin".

Sally Mauldin